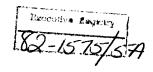
SECRET



THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

MEMORANDUM FOR:	Mr. Otho Eskin Director of the Office of Ocean Law and Policy Department of State
SUBJECT:	CIA Concurrence and Viewpoints On the Revised Senior Interagency Group Report to the President on the Law of the Sea
reviewed the rev and finds that fitthe current situation official negotiar presents for the addressed by the foreseeable future. 2. As for	the specific issues for decision, we offer the following
Agency viewpoint Issue 1	
	Since the seabed mining texts of the Convention fail to meet the President's six objectives, the CIA believes the Convention, on balance, falls short of the minimum level required to obtain US signature.
Issue 2	: Should a decision on signing be made now or be deferred?
	CIA would note that the US's industrial allies do not wish to damage their relations with the developing countries over the seabed mining issue and, thus, would prefer to keep a low profile on their negotiations with the United States on the proposed Reciprocating States Agreement. Therefore, it would seem prudent to defer the decision not to sign the Convention until later in the year and thereby free our Allies of the burden of developing country

25×1

25X1

25X1

had openly rejected the UN LOS Treaty

criticism leveled at their ongoing talks with a state that

SUBJECT:		currence and Viewpoints on the Revised Senior Interagency export to the President on the Law of the Sea	25X1
	Issue 3:	Should the United States discontinue all further participation in the LOS Conference process or take part in the Drafting Committee and informal plenary and the Caracas Session?	
		It would be appropriate, in our opinion, for the United States to participate in the concluding events of the Conference and thus be in a position to protect the favorable navigational provisions of the Treaty should any challenges to these provisions arise.	
	Issue 4:	Should the United States sign the Final Act at Caracas and participate in the Preparatory Commission?	
		CIA believes that a decision on this issue should be delayed until Fall when the United States would likely be better informed with regard to our allies and the Soviet's intentions concerning signature of the Convention and consequent participation in the Preparatory Commission.	
	Issue 5:	Should the United States encourage efforts to amend the text of the LOS Convention?	
		The CIA is unable to corroborate, or to disprove, the allegations that selected States are considering amendments to the seabed texts of the Convention to improve the prospects for US signature.	25X1
			25X1

Chairman